

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph, beginning at page 15, line 17, with the following rewritten paragraph:

On the gripping surface, the movable pin 70 and the fixed pin 72 are shown in further detail in FIG. 15[[16]]. Preferably, the movable pin 70 and the fixed pin 72 make an angle ϕ_{76} of about 30 degrees. This angle ϕ_{76} is in accordance with the angle θ_{30} of about 30 degrees of the first embodiment of the implant 10 so that the movable pin 70 and the fixed pin 72 fit flushly inside the insertion pin holes 22 and 26. Any other suitable angle ϕ_{76} can be used as long as the pins 70 and 72 are situated to fit inside the insertion pin holes 22, 22', 22'', 22''' and 26, 26', 26'', 26'''. Preferably, the pins 70 and 72 can be smooth to fit into smooth insertion pin holes 22, 22', 22'', 22''' and 26, 26', 26'', 26''', or alternatively, they can be textured. The pins 70 and 72 are of a length suitable to fit securely inside the insertion pin holes 22, 22', 22'', 22''' and 26, 26', 26'', 26'''. Further detail in FIG. 16 and FIG. 17 shows that the fixed pin 72 is situated in a fixed pin slot 78, and the movable pin 70 is disposed inside a movable pin slot 80. The pin slots 78 and 80 can be formed by any cutting means known in the art, or alternatively, they can be formed in the insertion device 60 as part of a mold.